



Physical Anthropology

-Official Newsletter of the American Association of Physical Anthropology-

www.physanth.org

University of Arkansas, Old Main 330, Fayetteville, AR, 72701

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Building Community in Physical Anthropology: An On-Line Newsletter

This is the inaugural issue of the on-line newsletter of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. In this age of rapid electronic communication and the wide availability of the “web”, an on-line AAPA newsletter offers a powerful means of broadcasting information about activities in the organization and in our science in general. Such a newsletter is also an ideal way of providing information on new grant initiatives by various funding agencies, and presenting announcements about meetings, conferences, and symposia. The newsletter can also disseminate information about and encourage discussion on areas of common concern—some of which are also of interest to the larger public—such as new developments in the mapping of the human genome, repatriation of skeletal remains, and new discoveries in paleontological field sites.

Most importantly, a newsletter functions to build community on an international scale by reaching out to the membership and others interested in physical anthropology. This follows the lead provided in the newly

introduced “News and Views” section of the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* (January 2000). The strength of the newsletter is derived directly from member and reader input. We invite your contributions!

Clark Spencer Larsen
President, AAPA
University of N. Carolina

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Submissions

Please send all submissions to the editor at newsletter@physanth.org. Submissions will be considered only in electronic format as e-mail attachments, or mailed on diskette as Windows compatible files.

Welcome to the inaugural issue of *Physical Anthropology*, the official newsletter of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. The executive committee of the AAPA asked me to create this newsletter to provide a forum for members to share information with others in the association. Job and funding opportunities, meeting announcements, news and views, and other general issues of interest are all "fair game".

Because it is important that *Physical Anthropology* reflect the many faces of our organization, we have formed an advisory group of five active researchers with a broad range of interests and expertise. I would like to introduce the group in this column.

- **Margaret Clarke**. Dr. Clarke is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Tulane University. She received her PhD from California-Davis in 1982. She has been studying socioecology of howler monkeys in Guanacaste province, Costa Rica since 1978. Her work at the Tulane Primate Center includes studies of the relationships between behavior and disease processes in macaques.

- **Marie Danforth**. Dr. Danforth is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Southern Mississippi. She received her PhD from Indiana University in 1989. Her research interests include skeletal biology, particularly nutrition and disease indicators. Her bioarchaeology work has focused on the Mayan region and the Southeastern United States.

- **Lyle Konigsberg**. Dr. Konigsberg is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Tennessee. He

received his PhD in Anthropology from Northwestern University in 1987. His research interests include skeletal biology, forensic anthropology, quantitative methods, and population genetics.

- **Steven Leigh**. Dr. Leigh is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He received his PhD in Anthropology from Northwestern University in 1992. His research interests center on the relations between development and evolution, and the explanation of derived ontogenetic changes based on detailed analyses of comparative data.

- **Sarah Williams-Blangero**. Dr. Williams-Blangero holds the rank of Scientist and is Chair of the Department of Genetics at the Southwest Foundation for Biomedical Research. She received her PhD from the Case Western Reserve University in 1987. Her research interests include genetic epidemiology of infectious diseases and genetics.

My own interests include the dietary adaptations of early hominids and other fossil primates, dental anthropology and the feeding ecology of living primates.

The newsletter will begin as a quarterly publication, but its frequency and length will ultimately depend on your contributions! If you have something to submit, please let me know at pungar@comp.uark.edu. Many thanks for your help.

Peter Ungar
University of Arkansas

Meeting Reports

In June of 1999, the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany, hosted a workshop organized by Rob Hoppa and James Vaupel on "Mathematical Modeling for Palaeodemography". The purpose of this workshop was to bring together key researchers who had proposed statistical approaches for reconstructing demographic profiles from skeletal age indicator data. A single, real data set was distributed to presenters several months prior to the meeting, and each were asked to provide a method that best approximated to true demographic profile. The workshop provided the opportunity for the presentation and discussion of alternative methods for palaeodemographic reconstructions, as well as the opportunity to compare results using the same, known-age data. Participants included Lyle Konigsberg and Nick Hermann, Jesper Boldsen, Darryl Holman, James Wood, George Milner, Bethany Usher, Hans-Georg Müller and Brad Love, Ursula Wittwer-Backofen, and Ariane Kemkes-Grottenthaler. The workshop was extremely successful and resulted in the adoption of a formal statistical protocol, original proposed by Müller and Love, that allows for the direct estimation of the population's structure from skeletal age-indicator data.

The workshop left most of us drained after two and a half days of intense discussion. However, it was agreed that the results and discussion would be prepared and published, and that we would meet again in the year 2000. Late in 1999, a proposal was submitted to Cambridge University Press for preparing an edited volume based on the workshop. In February 2000, Cambridge University Press agreed and the volume will be published in the Studies in Biological and Evolutionary Anthropology series. In August 2000, the group will reconvene in Voorburg, the Netherlands, where a full day session on palaeodemography is being slated as part of the International Statistics Institute Cutting-Edge Conference on the Social and Biological Determinants of Longevity, co-sponsored by the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. This will provide us with the opportunity to present the results of this on-going initiative for making meaningful estimates of mortality in the past, and to develop future strategies for promoting and integrating these new techniques into the field of palaeodemography.

*Robert D. Hoppa
University of Manitoba*

Student Interests/Funding

Locating funding for research projects can be a daunting task for students in masters or undergraduate programs, especially at non-doctoral institutions. Various internships and fellowships are available, but often a student will instead be seeking seed money to purchase research equipment or to pay for travel. Unfortunately, most colleges and universities have few funds set aside for such purposes, and anthropology faculty are less likely to have grants to help provide for such contingencies compared to their counterparts in the sciences. Nevertheless, a few opportunities do exist.

Probably the most well-known source of seed money for students are the Grants-in-Aid of Research from Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society (on the web at www.sigmaxi.org/giar/giar.htm). Currently, anthropology is the second most commonly funded field, with the average award being about \$700. Deadlines for application are 3/15 and 10/15. Recently, however, I came across another resource. Geochron Laboratories (www.geochronlabs.com/research.html) holds a competition every year among graduate students in which the awards are services in one of four types of services: 1) K-Ar age determination; 2) ¹⁴C age or AMS age determinations; 3) stable isotope ratio analysis; and 4) stable Pb or Sr analysis. Although not a large amount of analysis is provided in the award, it is a good start for many student projects. Thus far, though, this is the only program of its sort that I am aware of, but I would hope that one activity of this newsletter can be to serve as a relay center for information about other such research funding opportunities.

*Marie Danforth
University of Southern Miss.*

AJPA Seeking Next Editor

The term of the current Editor of the American Journal of Physical Anthropology will expire in April 2001, and a search for the next Editor is being carried out this year. The Search Committee is composed of the following members: Chris Ruff (Chair), Linda Fedigan, Lorna Moore, Jeff Rogers, and Carol Ward.

Suggestions for Editor nominees may be made to any of the members of the Committee. Applications for this position should be sent, preferably by e-mail, to the Chair, Chris Ruff, at the following address: cbruff@jhmi.edu (or, Dept. Cell Biology and Anatomy, Johns Hopkins Univ. School of Medicine, 725 North Wolfe Street, Baltimore, MD 21205). Applications should include a curriculum vitae and a statement of the future "mission" of the AJPA and the applicant's qualifications for Editor. Suggestions or applications should be submitted before July 1, 2000.

Chris Ruff
Johns Hopkins University

Anthropology Honor Society

Lambda Alpha is the national honorary society in anthropology. Founded in 1968, there are currently over 60 chapters nationwide. Although individual chapters vary in their chosen level of activity, many have sponsored events such as lecture series, paper competitions, field trips, and social gatherings. Requirements for undergraduate admission include a 3.0 gpa or better for 12 hours in anthropology and a 2.5 overall gpa. Graduate requirements are 3.25 gpa and 3.00 gpa, respectively. For further information about starting a chapter, please visit the society on the web (<http://www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Lab/5610/>) or contact Executive Secretary B.K. Swartz (e-mail address: 01bkswartz@bsuvc.bsu.edu).

Marie Danforth
University of Southern Miss.

AAPA Publishing Agreement

The officers and members of the AAPA Executive Committee are pleased to announce the signing of a publishing agreement—the first ever—between the AAPA and John Wiley & Sons Inc. for the publication of the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. The agreement is for seven years and features the following key terms:

- (1) Reduction of the institutional subscription rate from \$2085/year to \$1390/year;
- (2) Second institutional subscription at 20% of the full rate (\$278);
- (3) Special rate of \$500 for 2001 and 2002 for lapsed or new non-member subscribers from museums or 2- to 4-year colleges;
- (4) Support for the Editorial Office and other significant compensation over the period of the agreement.

Clark Larsen
University of N. Carolina

JHE Subscriptions

Academic Press is delighted to offer members of the AAPA a greatly discounted annual subscription to the Journal of Human Evolution. Members are eligible for the special rate of \$90 a year, which is a discount of more than 75% off the regular individual price of \$372. Published monthly, JHE publishes the highest quality research, reviews, short communications and meeting reports covering all aspects of human evolution.

Further information about the journal is available at www.academicpress.com/jhevol. Please e-mail kate_davis@harcourt.com to subscribe.

Kate Davis
Journals Marketing Manager
Academic Press
London

Funding Opportunities

National Science Foundation

The Foundation supports scientific research of theoretical importance in all theoretical and empirical subfields within the discipline of physical anthropology. Senior and dissertation research support available as well. For more information visit www.nsf.gov/sbe/sber/physical/physinfo.htm or contact Mark Weiss at mweiss@nsf.gov.

Leakey Foundation

Special awards are available to postdoctoral and senior scientists for the study of great apes, for the study of foraging peoples, or multidisciplinary paleoanthropological research. For more information visit <http://www.leakeyfoundation.org> or e-mail info@leakeyfoundation.org.

National Geographic Society

The society has grants available for scientific field research and exploration. E-mail askngs@nationalgeographic.com for more details or visit www.nationalgeographic.com/research/index.html.

National Institutes of Health

The NIH has several funding and grant opportunities in a variety of fields. For more information visit the web at <http://www.nih.gov/> or contact grantsinfo@nih.gov.

Wenner-Gren Foundation

Grants are available for basic research in all branches of anthropology. A small number of awards are available for projects designed to develop resources for anthropological research and scholarly exchange. E-mail info@wennergren.org or visit <http://www.wennergren.org/welcome.htm> for more information.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The NEH has several grants and awards, each with various deadlines. See <http://www.neh.gov/> for more information.

Smithsonian Institution Pre/Postdoctoral Research Fellowships in Anthropology

The institution has various awards in a number of fields, many relating to physical anthropology. Visit the Institution on the web at <http://www.si.edu/research+study>.

Center for Field Research

The CFR invites proposals for field research in anthropology in 2000. For further information and deadlines, visit the Center on the web at <http://www.earthwatch.org/cfr/CFRanthro.html>.

Fulbright Association

The Fulbright Association has funding available for various fields of study within anthropology as well as others. Visit the Association's website at <http://www.fulbright.org> for more information.

American Museum of Natural History

The Museum offers competitive grants and fellowships in areas broadly related to its scientific and educational objectives, including the field of anthropology. Four major programs are involved: Grants, Research Fellowships, Graduate Student Fellowships, and Research Experiences for Undergraduates. More details are available at <http://research.amnh.org/grants/index.html>.

Employment

The *Univ. of Hawaii at Hilo, Dept. of Anthropology*, is seeking applicants for a non-tenure track, one year appointment as Asst Professor for the 2000-2001 academic year, pending funding. The University is seeking a physical anthropologist with a concentration in human biology. Responsibilities include teaching undergraduate courses in introductory physical anthropology, ecological, and medical anthropology as well as additional offerings, and engaging in research activities. Send a letter of application, vita, and names of three references by April 30, 2000 to: Craig Severance, Chair, Department of Anthropology, University of Hawaii at Hilo, 200 West Kawili Street, Hilo, HI 96720-4091. EOE/AAE.

The *Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii* has post-masters and post-docs, one year renewable, through the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. Presumably they include opportunities for forensic anthropology types. Contact John Byrd at (808) 448-8062, ext. 19.

Los Alamos National Laboratory has research opportunities in many areas, including biological anthropology. There are two appointment categories: Postdoctoral Fellows who may pursue independent research of their own choice, and Postdoctoral Research Associates who pursue research directly related to Los Alamos National Laboratory programs. Appointments are for two years, renewable for a third year. Application materials are accepted throughout the year. Visit www.hr.lanl.gov/postdoc for more information.

The *Department of Evolutionary Genetics, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology*, Leipzig, Germany, has a position available for a postdoctoral fellow with demonstrated research experience in automated DNA sequencing and a working knowledge of computer programs for contig assembly, sequence alignment, and phylogenetic analyses. Contact Dr. Chihua Chiu at chiu@eva.mpg.de for more information.

The *University of Missouri, Department of Anthropology* seeks to fill instructor positions in cultural as well as biological anthropology. Both are full-time, one-year replacement positions beginning August 2000. Ph.D. required for both. Cultural anthropologist must have ability to teach introductory anthropology, scientific ethnography, and course(s) in specialty; load is 5 courses/year. Biological anthropologist must have ability to teach introductory biological anthropology and specialized courses; load is 5 courses/year. Will interview applicants at the AAPA meetings. Send application letter, 3 letters of recommendation, Vita, to Search Committee, Department of Anthropology, 107 Swallow Hall, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65211-1440. Deadline: June 1, 2000 or until positions are filled. The University of Missouri is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer.

Meetings of Interest

May 10-13, 2000

**International Conference-The Apes:
Challenges for the 21st Century**

Contact: Ape Conference Planning
Committee, Brookfield Zoo
Brookfield, Illinois 60513-0719
E-mail: apecon@brookfieldzoo.org

May 15-19, 2000

**Northwest Association of Forensic
Scientists – NWAFS**

Sacramento, California
Meeting Info: [http://users.aol.com/
lctox/nwafshome.htm](http://users.aol.com/lctox/nwafshome.htm)
<http://members.aol.com/lctox/spr00.htm>

May 28-31, 2000

**Canadian Sociology and Anthropology
Association**

University of Alberta
Contact: Doug Aoki
Phone: 780-492-0478
Fax: 780-492-7196
E-mail: doub.aoki@ualberta.ca
[http://www.unb.ca/web/anthropology/
csaa/csaa.html](http://www.unb.ca/web/anthropology/csaa/csaa.html)

June 17-20, 2000

**Society for Molecular Biology and
Evolution – SMBE 2000 Meeting**

Yale University
New Haven, Connecticut
More information available at:
<http://www.smbe.org/index/html>

June 21-24, 2000

**American Society of Primatologists -
2000 Meeting**

Regal Harvest House
Boulder, Colorado
Contact: <http://www.asp.org/asp2000/>

June 23-27, 2000

**Society for the Study of Evolution
Annual Meeting**

Bloomington, Indiana
Contact: Dr. Susan J. Mazer, Executive
Vice-President
Society for the Study of Evolution,
Department of Ecology, Evolution and
Marine Biology
University of California

Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Fax: 805-893-4724,

E-mail: mazer@lifesci.ucsb.edu

July 12-14, 2000

**5th International Ancient DNA
Conference**

The Manchester Conference Centre,
University of Manchester Institute of
Science and Technology
Manchester, England
Contact: Terry Brown
E-mail: terry.brown@umist.ac.uk
Tel: +44 161 200 4173
Fax: +44 161 236 0409
<http://www.meeting.co.uk/>
<http://www.umist.ac.uk/>

August 6-11, 2000

**3rd International Symposium –
Workshop on Frugivores and Seed
Dispersal: Biodiversity and
Conservation Perspectives**

Sao Paulo, Brazil
<http://www.unicamp.br/ib/f2000>

August 28-September 2, 2000

**The XVIIIth (New) International
Congress of Zoology – ICZ
The New Panorama of Animal
Evolution**

Athens, Greece
More information at
[http://lionfish.ims.usm.edu/~musweb/
icz_xviii/icz_home.html](http://lionfish.ims.usm.edu/~musweb/icz_xviii/icz_home.html)

October 20-22, 2000

**The 7th Annual Meeting of the Mid-
west Bioarchaeology and Forensic
Anthropology Association (BARFAA)**

University of Missouri, Columbia
Information will be mailed out in early
summer to past BARFAA attendees.
Abstracts and registration fees of \$35
are due September 15, 2000. Electronic
submission of abstracts is preferred.
Snail mail abstract submissions and
checks should be sent to:
Deborah L. Cunningham
Dept. of Anthropology
University of Missouri
107 Swallow Hall

Columbia, MO 65211

Additional information is available at:
[www.luc.edu/depts/anthropology/
BARFAA/](http://www.luc.edu/depts/anthropology/BARFAA/) or [www.web.missouri.edu/~
anthwww/asa.htm](http://www.web.missouri.edu/~anthwww/asa.htm)
Contact: dlcfc@missou.edu or
chmidling@usa.net.

November 15-19, 2000

**American Anthropological
Association 99th Annual Meeting**

San Francisco, California
Contact: AAA Meetings Dept.
4350 N. Fairfax Dr., Suite 640
Arlington, VA 22203-1620
Tel: 703 528 1902 ext. 2
E-mail: jmeier@aaanet.org

January 7-12, 2001

**XVIIIth Congress of the
International Primatological Society**

Adelaide, Australia
Theme is comparisons and parallels
between primates and marsupials.
Contact: Conventions Worldwide
P.O. Box 44, Rundle Mall,
SA 5000, Australia
Tel: +61 8 8363 0068
Fax: +61 8 8363 0354
E-mail: satconv@camtech.net.au
For more information on accommoda-
tions, air travel, registration, call for
papers, and symposium registration
visit the website www.primates.on.net

July 21-26, 2001

**6th International Congress of
Vertebrate Morphology**

University of Jena, Germany
Contact: ICVM-6
Institute of Systematic Zoology and
Evolutionary Biology
Friedrich-Schiller-University of Jena
Erbertstraße 1
D-07743 JENA, Germany
Tel: + 49 3641 949155
Fax: +49 3641 949152
E-mail: icvm6@pan.zoo.uni-jena.de
Website: [http://www.sgiloco.zoo.uni-
jena/icvm-6.html](http://www.sgiloco.zoo.uni-jena/icvm-6.html)
